

ORIGINAL SIGNED MAY 16, 2003

Mr. Don R. Knowles
Senior Advisor to the Assistant Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service - 14th Floor
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Mr. Knowles,

On April 1, 2003, the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), initiated consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service on pesticide products containing the active ingredient diazinon. In that consultation package, we indicated we were requesting concurrence on our “not likely to adversely affect” findings and formal consultation resulting in a biological opinion on our “may affect” findings.

I respectfully amend that request and ask that you consider in the formal consultation, , three of the ESUs for which we have made a “not likely to adversely affect” finding. Specifically, these ESUs are: California Coastal Chinook Salmon, Central California Coho, and Central California Coast Steelhead. I believe the consultation package submitted to you on April 1 contains the elements required by 50 CFR section 402.14(c) to include these ESUs as part of our initiation of formal consultation.

In every other respect, the package we provided to you on April 1, 2003 remains unchanged. The consultation package encompassed all uses of diazinon that may occur in California and the Pacific Northwest and otherwise, met our commitments for this pesticide under a Consent Decree with Californian’s for Alternatives to Toxics (CATs).

Please let me know if you have any questions about this request.

Sincerely,

|s|
Arthur-Jean B. Williams, Chief
Environmental Field Branch
Field and External Affairs Division (7506C)